## **Phoenix City Council Selects Landfill Location**

On January 15, 2002 Phoenix City Council approved the Public Works Department's recommendation to acquire and permit the State Route (SR) 85 site for a new city landfill. After more than a year of evaluating potential landfill sites and gathering public input, the City's Public Works staff presented their recommendation to acquire and permit the SR 85 site. Phoenix City Council reviewed the findings and unanimously approved the SR 85 site.

### Why does Phoenix need a New Landfill?

The City of Phoenix's only active landfill, Skunk Creek, is running out of space and is expected to reach capacity

sometime in the year 2005. The new landfill will help ensure that Phoenix residents continue to have economical garbage services for the next 50 years.



# of the State Route 85 Site

The site is located south of the Town of Buckeye near the Sam Lewis Prison complex west of SR 85 just south of Patterson Road.

#### **Other Sites Considered**

Twelve potential landfill sites were initially considered. After further site-specific criteria were applied, seven potential sites emerged as technically superior sites. The City began the public involvement process by introducing the potential sites in a newsletter, ads, and at stakeholder meetings. The potential sites were separated into two groups or tiers. The top tier contained the three most feasible sites, which were further studied. The secondary tier contained sites that were technically suited for a landfill but would not be pursued unless the top three sites were eliminated.

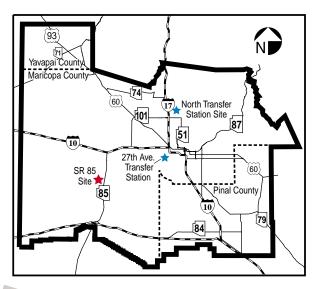
#### Tier 1 Sites

- State Route 85 (the selected site)
  Privately owned site in unincorporated Maricopa County, but within the municipal planning area for the Town of Buckeye.
- North Central Located just northwest of I-17 and the Carefree Highway, adjacent to the Ben Avery Shooting Facility.
- State Route 238 Located northwest of the community of Maricopa in southern Pinal County. This site included the existing Sierra Estrella Landfill.

#### **Public Involvement Process**

**P**ublic participation activities included briefing elected officials in the affected jurisdictions, meeting with key stakeholders, working with a Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) and reaching out to the general public through newsletters, community open houses, notices, and the project Web site and hotline.

A community open house was held for each of the three Tier 1 sites. A second open house was held for the North Central site due to public request. More than 200 people attended the open houses and more than 700 comments were submitted. Public comments played an integral role in final site selection.



## **Transfer Station/Recycling Facility**

The same process that was used to site the landfill was used to site a transfer station/recycling facility in North Phoenix. Phoenix City Council approved the north transfer station/recycling facility location in May 2001. The site is located three miles north of Happy Valley Road, east of I-17. The Facility is presently under design and is expected to begin operation in 2005.

#### **Next Steps**

The City will continue the process of acquiring the site and completing detailed site studies to support planning and permitting of the landfill. This will be followed by design and construction. The landfill is expected to begin operation as early as 2005.

#### **CONTACT US**

To find out more about the project, visit the web site <a href="www.phxlandfill.com">www.phxlandfill.com</a>, send an e-mail <a href="garbage@phoenix.gov">garbage@phoenix.gov</a>, or call 602-534-3333.

